

# St. Helens Mist

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## COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

### HIGHWAY SITUATION.

The highway situation throughout the state, and especially in Columbia county, has assumed a very peculiar phase. In the ordinary course of events there is nothing so strikingly strange about it; but events in this county have not been ordinary. Localities have been divided against sections, neighbors contending against neighbors, friends arrayed against friends. And what for? As time has passed along and conditions have become better understood the ill feeling engendered by the strife which grew out of the highway situation is gradually but most certainly being dispelled. In the first place there never was any reason for it. There certainly has been no gain through it. Conditions today are no different from what they would have been had all those differences never arisen. Those people in whose hands were placed the management of affairs are doing no differently from what any other straightforward, conscientious, honorable citizen or official would have done or could do. The present county court is exerting its most diligent and conscientious effort to do just what is right in the highway situation. This is nothing more than the former court was doing, as events have most assuredly proven. The outcome of it all will be just the same. Perhaps a little slower in development, but no different in the end. The influences which were largely responsible for all the difficulties in this county were brought about by outside conditions. Time is eliminating those factors. The process is slow, but like the grinding of the mills of God, it's sure. False representations were too numerous. Inaccurate estimates of the cost of bringing about certain ends and accomplishments had an important part in the struggle. Faith in unknown and untried authorities led many along the pathway of contention. Unfounded prejudices warped the judgment of others. But the outcome is just the same. Today Columbia county stands in regard to its highway in a chaotic attitude. The former county court foresaw these conditions. The present county court is combatting them and exerting every honorable influence to avoid the pitfalls which beset the conduct of highway business under the management of the highway engineer. No progress will be made until there is a change of management of state highway matters. The highway commission has no faith in its experts, and the process of elimination is at work. The contentions of the former court that matters were grossly mismanaged has gained the day. Mr. Bowlby's elimination is certain. This once accomplished a normal condition of affairs will return and progress will ensue.

### HELP THE KIDDIES.

The school children of Columbia county have undertaken a work in which they are certainly entitled to unanimous and unstinted support and encouragement, financially, morally and otherwise. They are proposing to raise funds with which to erect a suitable building at the county fair grounds in which to display the school work. In this noble undertaking the entire population of the county should respond cheerfully and liberally to the appeal of the youngsters. They propose to raise the funds by several means, none of which will involve the outlay or contribution by any individual of any considerable amount of money.

One of the methods of raising funds which will be inaugurated will be the sale of tags, another will be through the medium of school entertainments and socials, and perhaps the solicitation of donations. The details of procedure are not yet definitely decided upon. However, the campaign is to be waged with vigor, and the populace is in duty bound to assist. Inadequate quarters for the display of school work of the county heretofore has had somewhat of a disparaging effect, and the best results have not been obtained. Exhibits of school work are each year becoming a more important feature at all expositions and fairs.

The dates for the Columbia County Fair were arranged this year for the week preceding the state fair with the idea foremost of permitting such

of the exhibits as were deemed worthy to be taken to the state fair. This was particularly the case with the exhibit of school work. Heretofore there has been no official head to take that work in hand. The recent legislature made the superintendents of county school members of county fair boards; hence better school displays and better displays of school work in the future.

The funds necessary to carry out what is yet but a tentative program for placing a suitable building at the fair grounds will approximate \$600. There are fifty-four school districts within the county. Should each district school raise \$10 by whatever means it chose, a fund of over \$500 would result. It is estimated that two thousand tags could be sold throughout the county. Our opinion is that this estimate is far too low. However, it would appear to be an easy matter to raise at least \$200 by that method. The undertaking is decidedly worthy of the best efforts of the children and other interested ones, and their appeals for assistance should meet hearty and liberal support from the public.

When announcement of definite plans is made, then should the real work begin. It has been the experience everywhere and upon all occasions where support was solicited for such a worthy cause the response has been spontaneous and liberal, and in this work soon to be undertaken by the school children of this county it cannot be contemplated that there could be any but the greatest encouragement given.

### IS IT THE WHOLE PROBLEM?

There is a sort of ostensible charity that falls far short of the real article. You will hear some one say: "I believe my way is the right way; but I am willing to give you the same right and credit you with the same honesty in believing another way is the right way." This does well enough and is creditable enough when you are talking of side issues. This, however, is merely a hypocritical charity when you are talking of something that requires the united effort of you both for its success. To credit the other fellow with good faith in such a case is merely to pamper your own miserable little self-will. It is the height of selfishness under the guise of breadth, charity, benevolence and a lot of other fine words. When it comes to co-operating for the furtherance of that which ought to be done and which you are called upon to help do you have simply got to get into team work with others. Differences largely center around personality and personality never accomplished anything worth while since the world began. If a purpose is worth while, you can afford to work in the team even if you don't think or don't believe in all particulars just as the others think or believe. Everything that is essential in this world is common and whatever is peculiar about your own thoughts, opinions or even beliefs, belongs to the nonessentials, no matter how much you may think otherwise.

### PUBLIC SENTIMENT.

Sometimes it is difficult to measure, to weigh or circumscribe public sentiment; the common opinion of the people in general. This may arise from your own lack of information and insight or it may be that there is no common sentiment among the people regarding the matter in hand. There was no difficulty during the middle of the nineteenth century to determine how the northern states regarded slavery from the moral standpoint. There was much difficulty in determining just how they regarded slavery with reference to the union of the states and the course to be pursued in its treatment by the nation as a whole. On the one point their mind had been made up, on the other point a powerful minority could prevent a common sentiment. The same has been true of the prohibition question. Prohibition as a moral question has received a much more rapid endorsement than prohibition as a political question, and yet there seem to be signs of the rapid approach of the time for a national proclamation of prohibition. The hope of the world is in a continual change of public sentiment to meet the continuous rise of new problems.

### DO YOUR PART WELL.

One can very well believe with the recent statements of an authority that anything which will add to the comfort of the animals, keep out disease and save labor in their care is a profitable investment. When the same authority goes on to say that every pound of gain in milk and meat means "proportional gain in profit" we would be inclined to make it a little stronger than this. After the expenses of maintenance and care have been met, then every pound of gain means much larger profit than the previous proportional profit. Labor and capital enter into live stock production and the efficiency of that

labor measures the readiness of capital to aid in the enterprise while the country is waiting for the right sort of rural credit. The man who puts plenty of skilled labor into the keeping of horses or sheep or cattle or hogs and adds to that skilled labor a fair measure of good business judgment will find tolerable credit at hand. Laws will not do it all. The man must do his part and do his part well.

### LIFE'S TRIP A LONG ONE.

"It's a long way to Tipperary" in any walk in life, and we all find it so. It's a long way to an ideal. We have to go a long way before we realize any lofty, noble sentiment. It's a long way for the boy who is leaving school to go before he finds himself established in life, influential, a leader in his community or state or nation. It's a long way for the boy who leaves the farm and goes to town. Eventually he may be a power in business, or a leader of men, but it's a long way to go. It's a long way for the boy with nothing but his hands and his brains, who hopes some time to have a home of his own, with the "sweetest girl" he knows as his life partner. Then it's a long way to go before his children are educated and well settled in life; by that time he is pretty nearly ready to go. It's a long way to go for a young man to obtain complete mastery over his appetites and his passions, to train his mind to work smoothly at will, and his hands to turn out a satisfactory product. It's a long way to the realization of any good thing.

### TWO MILLION ARE JOBLESS

There are 2,000,000 persons unemployed in the United States whose yearly earnings should be about \$1,250,000,000, according to Theodore N. Vail, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph company, in the annual report of the company just issued. These unemployed are now living at the expense of savings, their friends or the public, and what is needed to bring about their re-employment and the return of prosperity is a restoration of conditions which would inspire confidence in the securities of public service and manufacturing enterprises to enable them to obtain capital for extension and improvement.

### JOBLESS AND THOUGHTLESS.

Leslie's Weekly.

The loudest who now clamor for employment are those who never pay the slightest attention to the need of wholesome legislation, inviting capital to embark in new enterprises, and give labor its opportunity to follow gainful pursuits.

The jobless crowd that demands employment from city, state and nation, is the one that listens, open-eyed, to mouthy demagogues proclaiming their destructive doctrines at street corners, from barrel-heads and soap boxes.

The jobless drive out the job-makers and then seek the bread line for subsistence. They are the easy victims of self-seeking demagogues and self-constituted champions of the common people. The jobless with few exceptions have themselves to blame for the troubles they face in every period of depression.

There isn't a workingman in this country, of middle age, with a trace of memory left, who can't recall other periods of depression through which we have passed, and who doesn't remember the reasons for them and the warnings sounded by thoughtful statesmen against economic policies that tend to destroy the nation's prosperity.

The trouble is that the recurring panics come at intervals of twenty years, and during this period a new generation of voters rises, untaught by experience, eager to listen to all the seductive sophistries of the silver-tongued demagogue, and to follow the false notions of those who deal in political buncombe and alluring promises of a golden Utopia.

We have been passing through a decade of trust-busting and railroad-smashing; the muckrakers have had the floor; the sensational press has been driving the captains of industry into exile. Misled by the clamor against high prices which were world-wide and uncontrollable, the masses have permitted political agitators to undermine the foundation of industry, upon which high wages and national prosperity must always rest.

### SWAT THE FLY.

The open season for flies is here. Swat them. But while we are preparing to swat the fly we are making any provision for swatting the things which harbor him? Is the back yard clean? Have you left piles of manure standing near the house? If so, remove it at once or your swatting of the fly will have little effect. In other words, remove the cause, then your warfare on the fly will avail you something.

## TWENTY YEARS AGO

The Mist of March 22, 1895.

Joseph Dupont made final proof on homestead entry No. 7310, before the county clerk Tuesday, for the northeast quarter of section 25, township 5 north, range 3 west.

Sheriff Doan made a handsome turn-over of cash to the treasurer last Saturday, amounting to \$2400. Mr. Doan says the receipts for the week were far ahead of the corresponding week last year.

The residence of John Frantz, near Houlton, caught fire Tuesday evening, and had it been discovered a few minutes later the house would have been consumed. Fortunately it escaped with only slight damage to the roof.

Mrs. Jacob George was tendered a thorough surprise last Saturday evening by a number of her friends, the occasion being her birthday. The evening was spent in card playing, and the hostess as well as the guests had an exceptionally pleasant time.

M. C. Gray, the telegraph operator at this place, intends moving to California about the first of April. Mr. Gray has traded offices with Lawrence Maxwell, well known here, who is located at Mojave, about ninety miles east of Los Angeles.

The little town of Houlton is fast becoming an interesting rival to St. Helens in the way of population. Houlton possesses many attractions in the way of a residence place, and since the plank walk is completed many of our town people are taking up their abode there. Good water, good school, handy transportation and good society are playing trump hands at Houlton.

Mr. S. Slaser returned last Sunday from a six weeks' visit to Oklahoma territory, where he went to close negotiations for a life partner, which he was successful in doing. The ceremony was performed at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Morris, on the 6th of February, and after visiting for several weeks Mr. and Mrs. Slaser started for their future home. Mr. Slaser and his estimable wife will take up their residence on the E. E. Quick place, which will no longer be known to Mr. Slaser as Bachelor Flat. The Mist extends congratulations and wishes the newly married couple unbounded happiness.

There is a movement on foot by the people living along Scappoose bay to have the channel deepened so as to permit of larger steamers running further up the bay. We are told that the people will petition congress for an appropriation to carry on the work, and it is intended to dredge the channel from the mouth of the bay to the Honeyman place, and then to keep the channel open it is proposed to turn Scappoose creek into it, and thus have a strong stream of water the entire length of the bay. This once done will prove a great benefit to the Scappoose country, enabling the farmers to ship their produce from their own places, at greatly reduced rates, and affording a splendid chance for some enterprising steamboatman to establish a paying business. It is hoped the scheme may be successfully worked out, for, indeed, it carries with it many advantages.

## INDUSTRIAL REVIEW

Concrete is to be used for another industry on Coos Bay.

Coos county has purchased a steam shovel for road improvement work.

The new law requires the publication of tax budgets by all tax-levying bodies.

Suslaw will get \$112,500 from congress for harbor improvement work.

The state fair board will have erected a rest bungalow on the fair grounds.

The Conner Creek mine, in Baker county, has been leased and will be operated.

The Southern Pacific Railway Company is to erect a modern depot at Cottage Grove.

A vein of what is said to be good quality coal has been discovered near Klamath Falls.

Springfield hopes to have one of the Eccles beet sugar factories established there.

The contract has been let for the erection of a United Lutheran church building at Silverton.

During the last two weeks of February coast mills exported about 21,000,000 feet of lumber.

The lambing season is fairly on in Eastern Oregon, and shearing will begin the first week in April.

F. F. Patterson, of Roseburg, has organized a company to install a commercial fruit drier at that place.

The construction of the Hermiston-Umatilla highway has been begun. Part of this highway is to be hard surfaced.

Main street, in Oregon City, is to be improved with bitulithic, with a two-inch wearing surface on a concrete base.

The board of regents is contemplating the erection of three additional buildings at the state university, Eugene.

Business interests at Roseburg are encouraging Kendall Brothers to install a sawmill at that place, with a railroad extending into the timber.

A. L. Foxley will establish a brick and newer purpose. Portland will have manufactured and installed concrete lamp posts. They will cost \$16 each.

Many counties are protesting against the extravagance of the state highway engineer. Some counties charge that work has cost thirty per cent more than necessary.

The state industrial accident commission has inaugurated an economy program, and Commissioner Marshall is to do the work of the secretary, thus saving \$2700 a year.

## CURRENT COMMENT

The ship purchase bill is no more, but what have you?

Give us the noiseless roller skate and we care not how many there are.

Farmers' skyscrapers: a silo near Englewood, Kan., is to be 55 feet high.

Did the elongated loaf of rye bread get the idea from the dachshund?

In time of war, prepare for peace. All the neutral nations are to hold a conference.

Driving the Turk into Asia won't save Armenia. The salvation of Armenia is emigration.

Our protests to England and Germany are at least as effective as grandma's "Now, don't boys."

History wasn't considered of much importance 6000 years ago, and nobody cared for the verdict of posterity.

Something has been found that is more deliberate than the supreme court; the interstate commerce commission.

All the mountain states are going dry. Will the transcontinental roads run faster trains to the Pacific coast to please tourists?

Betting on horse races has been legalized in Nevada. We see Nevada is determined on being the playground of America.

Chautauquas are looking for all real orators; they are so scarce that they have to piece out with persons who only happen to be well advertised.

The cat license bill in the Massachusetts legislature has been killed. In view of how little the law everywhere does for cats, they thrive amazingly.

A poultry expert says he can tell the sex of an egg by looking at it. This is far superior to the hen herself, who can't tell an egg from a porcelain imitation.

International diplomacy, on examination, seems to consist of a great deal of tergiversatory correspondence accompanied by just simply trusting to fool luck.

Lincoln's old ax has been found. Is there anybody living now who will be as famed as Lincoln? If so, better be gathering up the souvenirs while the gathering is good.

Neutrality is telling someone that you will not discuss the war with him because your opinions differ from his, and then sticking around until he bags you into a red-faced argument.

One superintendent of education says that the introduction of militarism into the public schools would be "organized insanity." Suppose he thinks flaunting the American flag over the schoolhouse is going far enough.

Portland's new trolley trains are to consist of two 26-foot cars connected with a smaller car known locally as "two rooms and a kitchenette." These three cars afford room enough to get the necessary thirty or forty signs on Portland cars.

## FIRE! FIRE! FIRE! FIRE!

See E. E. Quick, St. Helens, and insure your property in the Oregon Fire Relief Association of McMinnville, Oregon. Don't put it off. Mch'26 W. L. WARREN, Agent.

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